

Fifth Symposium on Statistics and the Environment

**Washington, DC
October 16-17, 1978**

Preface For 5th Symposium Proceedings

On behalf of the Steering Committee of the Fifth Symposium on Statistics and the Environment, and the sponsors of this symposium, it is with pleasure that we present to you the papers presented on October 16 and 17, 1978. The first two Symposia were sponsored by the Southern California Chapter of the American Statistical Association. These were held in Los Angeles, California. At the request of ASA members and others who were concerned with the toxicological, health, and epidemiological problems of the environment, the Symposium was then moved to Washington, D.C. At that time we felt that we would like to have a broader base for presentation and participation in this symposium, and the last three symposia were sponsored by a number of societies.

These sponsors for the Fifth Symposium include the American Statistical Association, the Society of Toxicology, the Committee on National Statistics and the Committee on Toxicology of the National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council, and the Natural Resources Law Section of the American Bar Association. The Coordinating Committee chose as the theme of the Symposium "Energy: Toxicology and the Law."

The development of regulations that protect soci-

ety in its natural surroundings, that do not unnecessarily restrict industrial activity, and that can be implemented with legislation by administrators, requires the evaluation of valid scientific data. These data must be collected and analyzed by scientists. But the legislative and policy implications are many times brought to light by members of the legal profession. The sometimes conflicting nature of our energy goals and environmental policies serve to highlight this interaction among statisticians, toxicologists, attorneys, epidemiologists and other scientists. It is to address the above that this symposium has brought together outstanding individuals in these various disciplines. Hence, we are committed to a forum at which leaders of education, government and industry in areas of environmental concern and activity may present their views, interpretations of regulations, and hence obtain responses from the participants.

We wish to thank all of the individuals, the sponsors, and the supporting agencies for their participation in the program and for their efforts toward the success of this Fifth Symposium.

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